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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/090,116	02/28/2002	Eric T. Bovell	3336.1003-000	3609
21005	7590	12/31/2003	EXAMINER	
HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C. 530 VIRGINIA ROAD P.O. BOX 9133 CONCORD, MA 01742-9133			BUI, HUNG S	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2841	

DATE MAILED: 12/31/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/090,116

Applicant(s)

BOVELL, ERIC T.

Examiner

Hung S Bui

Art Unit

2841

MW

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 6-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 6-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's appeal of the rejection is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of that action is withdrawn. A new office action follows.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 2, 6-8, 10-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reznikov et al. [US 6,378,965B1] in view of Montoya et al. [US 6,421,236B1].

Regarding claims 7, 10, 12-13, Reznikov et al. disclose a panel/handle (66) for circuit sled module (24, figure 2) comprising:

- a panel/handle having a front, top and a bottom (figure 5), the panel being rotatably connected via by means of a hinge pin (67) to the circuit sled module (figure 5);
- at least one hook (86, 87) near the bottom of the panel engaging the catch of a tray (28, figure 6c) when the panel is rotated into a closed position; and
- at least one side wall having at least one hook extending a portion of the side wall near the bottom of the panel (figure 5, column 1, lines 48-55).

Reznikov et al. disclose the instant claimed invention except for grounding tabs electrically connecting the panel to an adjacent panel.

Montoya et al. disclose a disk drive module (figure 1) mounted in a chassis including at least one grounding tab/clip (190, 191, figure 1, column 3, lines 37-45).

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to include grounding tabs on a panel of Reznikov et al., as suggested by Montoya et al., for the purpose of providing grounding between adjacent modules.

Regarding claims 2 and 11, Reznikov et al. disclose a releasable fastener (77) locking the panel to the sled module (figure 6c).

Regarding claim 6, Reznikov et al. disclose the panel serving as a lever for assisting extraction of the circuit sled module from the tray.

Regarding claim 8, Reznikov et al. disclose the circuit sled module being a hard disk drive (abstract).

Regarding claims 14-15, the claim method steps would have been inherent in the product structure.

4. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reznikov et al. in view of Montoya et al., as applied to claim 10 above, and further in view of Gonzales [US 4,334,261].

Regarding claim 3, Reznikov et al. in view of Montoya et al. disclose the instant claimed invention except for the fastener being a screw.

Gonzales discloses a module (24) being inserted within a chassis and secured by a screw (figure 2).

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to use the screw design of Gonzales in Reznikov et al. in view of Montoya et al., for the purpose of rigidly securing the sled module in the chassis.

5. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reznikov et al. in view of Montoya et al., as applied to claim 10 above, and further in view of Kim et al. [US 6,288,902 B1].

Regarding claim 9, Reznikov et al. in view of Montoya et al., disclose the instant claimed invention except for the front panel having vents therein.

Kim et al. disclose a sled module (114) having a panel/handle (220) including a plurality of vents (218, figure 6b).

It would have been an obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to have vents in the handle of Reznikov et al. in view of Montoya, as suggested by Kim et al., for the purpose of providing cooling.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-3 and 6-15 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.


Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hung S Bui whose telephone number is (703) 305-8024. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30AM-6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David S Martin can be reached on (703) 308-3121. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-5115.

HB
10/24/03

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Martin', is positioned above the printed name and title.

DAVID MARTIN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800